



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter  
101 Eighth Street  
Oakland, CA 94607-4700  
TEL 510.817.5700  
TTY/TDD 510.817.5769  
FAX 510.817.5848  
E-MAIL [info@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:info@mtc.ca.gov)  
WEB [www.mtc.ca.gov](http://www.mtc.ca.gov)

June 3, 2009

*Scott Haggerty, Chair*  
Alameda County

*Adrienne J. Tissier, Vice Chair*  
San Mateo County

*Tom Azumbrado*  
U.S. Department of Housing  
and Urban Development

*Tom Bates*  
Cities of Alameda County

*Dean J. Chu*  
Cities of Santa Clara County

*Dave Cortese*  
Association of Bay Area Governments

*Chris Daly*  
City and County of San Francisco

*Bill Dodd*  
Napa County and Cities

*Dorene M. Giacopini*  
U.S. Department of Transportation

*Federal D. Glover*  
Contra Costa County

*Anne W. Halsted*  
San Francisco Bay Conservation  
and Development Commission

*Steve Kinsey*  
Marin County and Cities

*Sue Lempert*  
Cities of San Mateo County

*Jake Mackenzie*  
Sonoma County and Cities

*Jon Rubin*  
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

*Bijan Sartipi*  
State Business, Transportation  
and Housing Agency

*James P. Sperling*  
Solano County and Cities

*Amy Rein Worth*  
Cities of Contra Costa County

*Ken Yeager*  
Santa Clara County

*Steve Heminger*  
Executive Director

*Ann Flemer*  
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

*Andrew B. Fremier*  
Deputy Executive Director,  
Bay Area Toll Authority

*Therese W. McMillan*  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

Potential New Freedom Applicants  
San Francisco Bay Area

RE: Call for Projects: Third Funding Cycle of the New Freedom Program  
for Large Urbanized Areas

Dear Potential New Freedom Applicants:

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) invites your agency or organization to submit applications for the New Freedom Program. Successful applicants will receive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding to support new public transportation services and/or public transportation alternatives beyond those required by the Americans for Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The available funding is \$3.7 million for projects that will serve the Bay Area's large urbanized areas (UAs). Caltrans will conduct a separate application process for small UAs and non-UAs.

Program Requirements

Project Eligibility

The eligibility requirements are:

1. Projects must be intended to assist individuals with disabilities with accessing transportation services; and
2. Projects must expand the transportation mobility options of disabled individuals beyond the requirements of ADA; and
3. Projects must be "new", that is, they must not have been implemented or operational on August 10, 2005, and must not have had an identified funding source as of August 10, 2005; and
4. Projects must be derived from the Bay Area's Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan.

Examples of eligible public transportation *services* beyond those required by ADA include paratransit enhancements, feeder services, accessibility improvements to transit and intermodal stations not designated as key stations, travel training, and new and expanded fixed route and demand responsive transit services planned for and designed to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities. Examples of eligible public transportation *alternatives* beyond those required by ADA include the purchase of vehicles with wheelchair accommodations for vanpooling, administration of voucher programs, administration of volunteer driver programs, and mobility management.

### *Eligible Applicants*

There are three categories of eligible applicants for New Freedom funds: a) private non-profit organizations; b) state or local governmental authorities; and c) operators of public transportation services, including private operators of public transportation services.

### *Federal/Local Share and Compliance with Federal Requirements*

Funds can be used for capital and operating expenses. The federal New Freedom share of the total eligible cost can be no more than 80 percent for capital projects and 50 percent for operating projects. The local share must be provided from sources other than federal transportation funds.

Recipients will be required to enter into an agreement with MTC for projects in the large UAs. Recipients must comply with all pertinent federal requirements, including quarterly reporting of project progress and project performance.

### Programming Targets

MTC seeks to program under this Call for Projects the FY 2008 and FY 2009 apportionments for the large UAs. The amounts are as follows:

Urbanized Area (UA)	Third Cycle Targets
<b>Bay Area Large UA</b>	<b>\$3,748,858</b>
Antioch	\$140,923
Concord	\$283,187
San Francisco-Oakland	\$2,209,639
San Jose	\$928,868
Santa Rosa	\$186,241

The urbanized areas are actually larger than the cities for which they are named. A map of the UAs is included in MTC's Program Guidelines. The above amounts are the target programming amounts for projects that will provide services within a given UA. Projects that will provide services in multiple UAs are eligible to apply for funds apportioned to all of the affected UAs.

### How to Apply

The Program Guidelines contain detailed information on the New Freedom Program and this Large Urbanized Area Call for Projects. The guidelines and application forms are available at [http://www.mtc.ca.gov/funding/new\\_freedom.htm](http://www.mtc.ca.gov/funding/new_freedom.htm). Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7, 2009 to the addressee below. *Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered.*

Kristen Mazur  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter  
101 Eighth Street  
Oakland CA 94607-4700.

A workshop for prospective applicants will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2009 at MTC's office on 101 Eighth Street in Oakland (3<sup>rd</sup> floor Fishbowl Conference Room). Attendance is not required but encouraged.

### Application Evaluation

After initial screening by MTC staff to determine eligibility, a panel consisting of Bay Area representatives of disabled population interests and MTC staff will evaluate and score the applications. Applications will be evaluated based on MTC-adopted criteria including: demonstration of need and expected benefits; evidence of coordination, partnership, and outreach efforts; and project readiness.

MTC reserves the right to waive minor irregularities in applications, and to request additional information from the applicants. Preliminary results are expected to be announced by October 2009.

We look forward to receiving your project applications. Feel free to contact Kristen Mazur at [kmazur@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:kmazur@mtc.ca.gov) or (510) 817-5789 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Therese W. McMillan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Therese W. McMillan  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

TM: KM

J:\PROJECT\Funding\FTA\New Freedom\Cycle 3\Large UA\Call for Projects\New\_Freedom\_Call\_for\_Projects.doc